

Did That Just Happen?

Acts of Bias and Perception of Campus Racial Climate

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Purpose of Study

To understand students conceptualization of acts of bias, isolated or targeted towards particular population/group, how its impacts students perception of campus racial climate, feelings about institutional response and established coping skills to contribute to persistence.

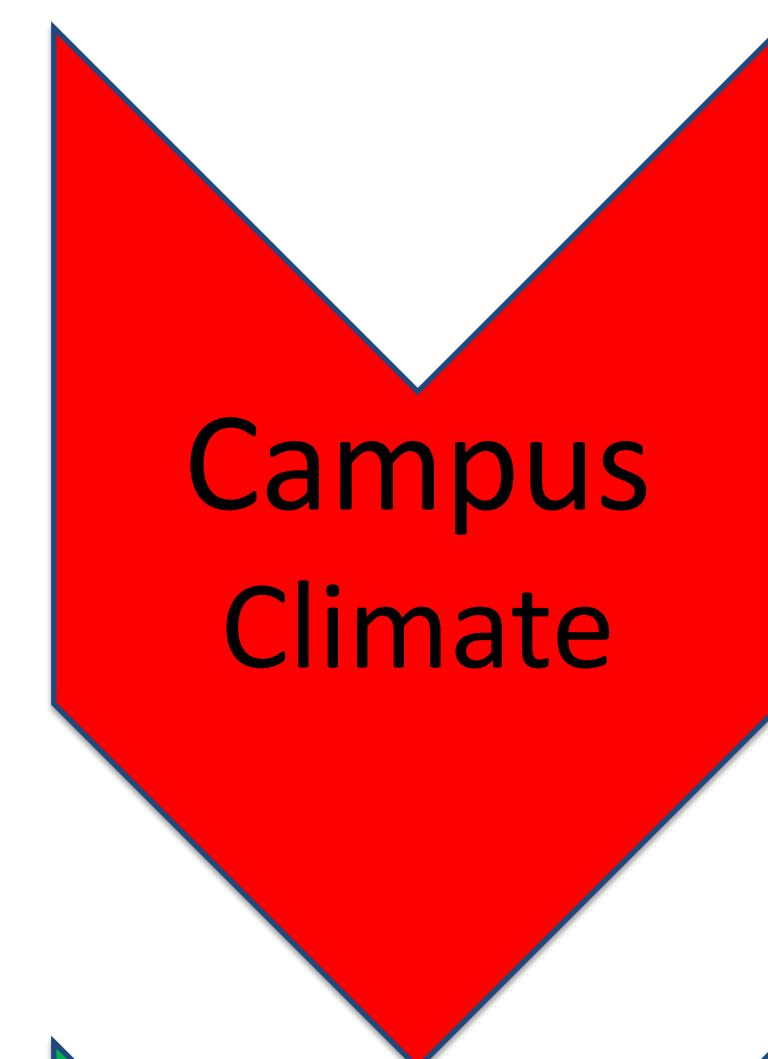
Research Questions

- How supported do students of color feel after a bias incident has occurred?
- How did the experience(s) change the perception of institution, sense of belonging in campus community?
- What factors contribute to student's ability to persist despite incident(s).

Method

Snowball sampling was used in this phenomenological study. Qualitative interviews were conducted with ten students. Who identified as African American or black to gain a general understanding of experience.

Findings



- Perception of physical safety
- Perception of classroom climate
- Climate for students of color



- Sense of Belonging
- Alter-community
- Mentorship



- Low people of color visibility
- Racial identity prioritization
- Events stimulate awareness



- Desensitized response(life experiences)
- National events and institutional response
- Social Media



- Teachable moments
- Mentorship to peers
- Navigating Relationships with admin.

Future Directions

- Continued research on AA experience at PWIs
- Institutional examination of policies and procedures related to campus climate and bias related incidents
- Learning from other institutions and national events on issuing occurring on campus.

“Cloudy with a chance of Microaggressions”

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